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at  
[http://www.  
american  
samoa.gov](http://www.american-samoa.gov)*

# Tapuitema

...ina ia manino le folauga.

Official American Samoa Government Weekly Newsletter

Wednesday, September 7, 2011

Vol. VI, No. 28

## Gov. Togiola arrives in NZ to attend Pacific Islands Forum

(UTULEI: **Sunday, September 4, 2011**) –

Governor Togiola Tulafono today arrived in Auckland, New Zealand from the Pacific Games in Noumea, New Caledonia to attend the 42<sup>nd</sup> Pacific Islands Forum Leaders' Meeting on the invitation of conference host Prime Minister John Key.

The formal session of the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) Leaders' Meeting will begin this Wednesday, September 7<sup>th</sup> (NZ time) and Governor Togiola has been invited to address the Pacific Leaders.

In inviting Governor Togiola, Prime Minister Key said it is an honor for New Zealand to host this year's PIF meeting

and for American Samoa to officially participate.

“As you may be aware, the Forum Officials Committee met on 18-19 August 2011 and considered matters relating to a request for Forum Observer status for American Samoa, which was conveyed by United States Secretary of State, the Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton, the General Secretary of the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, Tuiloma Neroni Slade, on your behalf. The Committee agreed to recommend to Forum Leaders that they invite American Samoa to become a Forum Observer,” wrote Prime Minister Key. “The Government and people of New Zealand look forward

to receiving you and your delegation to this important gathering of regional Leaders, and I look forward to welcoming you to New Zealand.”

While in New Zealand, Governor Togiola will also attend a business and trade show where he plans to meet with investors who wish to inquire about establishing businesses in American Samoa.

Governor Togiola and First Lady Mary Ann will return to Noumea on September 10 in time for the closing ceremony of the Pacific Games, and then return to the Territory with the American Samoa team on September 12.

## ASG RADIO PROGRAM

*With: Gov. Togiola Tulafono*

**On: KSBS FM 92.1**

**Saturdays @ 7:30 a.m.**

**SHARE IMPORTANT INFORMATION & ACTIVITIES IN YOUR ASG NEWSLETTER  
“TAPUITEA”**

Contact: Please email your articles, notices, photos, etc., etc. to [tapuitema@as.gov](mailto:tapuitema@as.gov)

# Lt. Gov. Faoa announces \$8.3 million from Health & Human Services

Lieutenant Governor Faoa Sunia announced on Thursday, August 25, 2011 that American Samoa will receive \$8.3 million for the next five years from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for the Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) of people at higher risk for substance abuse.

"This is great news and we continue to receive this wonderful assistance to allow our island community to provide more comprehensive substance abuse screening, secondary prevention, early intervention and referrals of higher risk people to treatment," said Lt. Gov. Faoa. "I wish to thank Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius for this award that will assist our Department of Human and

Social Services (DHSS) for making this service available in the Territory."

American Samoa was awarded the SBIRT grant because of its investment in funding and observing the evidence-based practice and the three-week training of two masters-level counseling personnel with SBIRT staff in New Mexico and then moving forward with adapting their policies, procedures and protocols to fit the healthcare system in the Territory. Human and Social Services also spent four months in making presentations and facilitating planning meetings with LBJ Hospital, the Department of Health (DOH) medical, nursing and social services staff to garner their buy-in and support for implementing SBIRT at the LBJ Outpatient

Clinics, Emergency Room, DOH Community Health Centers and schools. American Samoa is the first territory to receive an SBIRT grant since its inception, and Lt. Gov. Faoa praised all the local efforts for this grant award.

"I want to say thank you to our lead agency, DHSS, and Director Leilua Stevenson for taking leadership of this effort and challenged her staff to develop a plan that will work for American Samoa," said Lt. Gov. Faoa. "This is a result of hard work and on island collaboration, and I say thanks and also commend our LBJ Hospital, the Department of Health and our schools for being a part of this great news and positive result of teamwork."

The actual award is \$8,304,000 for five years.

## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

### **To all alcoholic beverage licensees**

Be advised that the Department of Public Safety, in collaboration with the Ta'ita'itama Prevent Underage Drinking Initiative and the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board ***will be conducting compliance check activities in your area beginning December 2010 and continuing through December 2011.***

Please remember that selling alcoholic beverages to a person under 21 years old is illegal per American Samoa Code, Title 27, Chapter 05; Section 27.0531:

***"No licensee may sell any alcoholic beverage to any person under 21."***

American Samoa is committed to protecting the health, safety, and welfare of its people. Our priority issue is to combat and prevent underage drinking and the problems that arise from this illegal activity.

**For additional information, feel free to contact the  
Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws - EUDL Program  
at 633-1582**

# STRENGTHENING PACIFIC COMMUNITIES

## Shaping the Future with ICTs

### Pago Pago

### AMERICAN SAMOA

7-11 November 2011

The Pacific Islands chapter of the Internet Society is pleased to announce dates and call for speakers for the 2011 PacINET conference to be held in Pago Pago, American Samoa on 7-11 November 2011.

As one of the largest and most active Internet Society Chapters in the Asia Pacific region, PacINET is the annual and inclusive Internet and ICT conference for the Pacific Islands. Technical experts, industry reps, government employees, civil society, and academics, in fact anyone who works or has an interest in ICTs in the Pacific islands, come together to explore issues and join forces with a range of international expertise.

The conference will be composed of a range of non-technical and technical topics and is open to formats including Paper Presentations, Demonstrations, Tutorials, Workshops and Panel Discussions. The theme for PacINET 2011 is “Strengthening Pacific Communities - Shaping the Future with ICT”. It is anticipated there will be various sub-themes and the event is open to those interested in topics related to ICTs in the Pacific including but not limited to:

Access for All  
Mobile phones and the Pacific  
ICTs and Health  
e-Government  
ICTs and Climate Change  
Internet Governance  
Net Neutrality  
Open data and crowdsourcing

Internet Safety and Cyberbullying  
Censorship and network blocking  
ICTs and Education  
Women in ICT Leadership  
Disaster management  
Social Media  
Mobile Apps Technology  
Electronic Waste

### Presenting at PacINET 2011

Some knowledge to share? An issue to discuss? Some skills to pass on?

To register your interest in being a presenter at PacINET 2011, please email [pacinet2011@gmail.com](mailto:pacinet2011@gmail.com) with:

- Your name, contact details.
- A brief ½ to 1 page description of your topic and suggested format (paper presentation, workshop etc).

### Important Dates:

15 Sept 2011	Deadline for Registrations of Interest
30 Sept 2011	Notification of Acceptance
7 October 2011	Schedule of Presentations finalised
15 October 2011	Schedule of Presentations published
7 -11 Nov 2011	Conference

**HISTORICAL NOTES**

By: Stan Sorensen, Historian, Office of the Governor

**On August 24, 1839**, William Walter Phelps was born in New York City. In 1889, President Benjamin Harrison appointed him to represent the United States at the International Congress on the Samoan Question, which met in Berlin. He was the grandfather of American Samoa's first appointed civilian governor, Phelps Phelps.

**On August 24, 1943**, First Lady (Anna) Eleanor Roosevelt inspected the Fita Fita Guard and Band, and the First Samoan Battalion, U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, at the U.S. Naval Station Tutuila.

**On August 26, 2002**, the three Hawaii Marines who were killed in combat in the Vietnam War were honored when three streets at a new housing project at the Kaneohe Bay base were named for them. American Samoan Marine Sergeant Sisifo Faleafine enlisted in 1962, following in the footsteps of his father, who was also a Marine. He was born in American Samoa and later, when his family moved to Honolulu, attended McKinley High School. Faleafine enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1962 and served as an infantryman in Company B, 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division. "He wanted to make it a career," said his widow, Leetha. "He was just doing his job and taking care of his young family that we were just starting. It was something he wanted to do. He wanted to serve his country even knowing the risk, and he paid the ultimate sacrifice." Leetha Faleafine said her family is extremely proud. "We never expected anything like this," she said. "It was a shock that something like this would happen. We feel very, very good about it." She noted that her husband's family has strong ties to the military, with five of 12 siblings serving in uniform. Faleafine's combat tours earned him two Purple Hearts and one Bronze Star. More than 20 members of the Faleafine clan attended the ceremony.

**On August 29, 1941**, Pita Fiti (later 'Tauese) Sunia, American Samoa's third elected governor, was born in American Samoa.

**On August 30, 1957**, Manu Tuiasosopo, the second Samoan to become a member of a Super Bowl team (the San Francisco 49ers) and the first Samoan to play in a Super Bowl (Super Bowl XIX in 1985) was born in Los Angeles, California to Asovalu Letupu Tuiasosopo of Vatia, Tutuila and Sorepa Temena Tagaloa of Olosega, Manu'a.

**On August 31, 1976**, "The electorate of American Samoa in an official referendum... voted by 3044 affirmative votes to 1366 negative votes to elect the Governor and Lieutenant Governor by popular vote."

**On August 31, 1901**, Commander Benjamin Franklin Tilley, Commandant of the U.S. Naval Station Tutuila, wrote a letter to Secretary of the Navy John Davis Long, in response to the accusations and character assassinations made against him and Secretary of Native Affairs Edwin William Gurr by Harry Jay Moors in his letter to Secretary Long dated July 29, 1901 (*q.v.*). Tilley said that "Although my unfortunate experience in San Francisco was widely published in the newspapers, many of the accounts were entirely untrue. There was nothing in the affair to warrant the unjust accusations, contained in this letter, against myself." (He did not explain what the "experience" was). Regarding Gurr, he wrote that "Mr. E.W. Gurr has been employed in Tutuila as Legal Adviser and Secretary to the Commandant. He was highly recommended and has performed his duties well. Besides this, he is the only man whom I know who is competent to perform the special duties of the position he occupies. I am sorry he is not an American. He has taken the oath of allegiance to the U.S. Unfortunately, he brings with him to his new position the enmities resulting from the bitter quarrels in Samoa."

**On August 31, 1976**, "The electorate of American Samoa in an official referendum... voted by 3044 affirmative votes to 1366 negative votes to elect the Governor and Lieutenant Governor by popular vote."

**On September 3, 1945**, Captain Samuel Wakefield Canan relieved Captain Ralph Waldo Hungerford and began his eight-day term as American Samoa's 32nd naval governor (acting: until September 10, 1945).

**On September 4, 1923**, Captain Edward Stanley Kellogg succeeded Captain Edwin Taylor Pollock, and took office as the 15th naval governor of American Samoa (until March 17, 1925).

**On September 5, 1996**, the *Aiga Tautai o Samoa* (Samoan Voyaging Society) successfully launched its repaired 'alia (double-hulled voyaging canoe), formerly named *Mana o Samoa*, and now rechristened as *Folanga o Samoa*, in Pago Pago Harbor. The vessel was dedicated by American Samoa's Governor, A.P. Lutali, and was donated to the people of American Samoa.

**On September 6, 1913**, American Samoa's Governor, Commander Clark Daniel Stearns, established the following government departments: (1) Judicial; (2) Treasury; (3) Interior; (4) Agriculture and (5) Public Health.

**On September 7, 1911**, USS *Princeton* relieved USS *Annapolis* as station ship for the U.S. Naval Station Tutuila and remained until May 5, 1915.

# Police Academy graduates 32 cadets; “...the face of the Territory”

The Department of Public Safety's 23<sup>rd</sup> Police Academy graduated 32 cadets who are the newest members of the local police force. The ceremony was held at the Governor H. Rex Lee Auditorium and was well attended by family members and friends.

Lt. Governor Faoa Sunia said during his remarks that the cadets have joined an elite group of men and women who the local community looks to for protection. He told the cadets that being part of the police force is both a duty and honor and therefore, they should do the job with much pride.

“It truly is an honor to be here to say in many respects the American Samoa Police Department is the face of the Territory - How you carry yourselves and how you carry out your responsibilities reflects on

our government and our entire island community that you will protect and serve,” said Lt. Gov. Faoa. “I believe that many of you regard the work of a police officer as a mission or calling to serve your fellow citizens - your brothers and sisters - to protect and defend your fellow citizens, and especially the weak, the young, the ill and the aged. I commend you for these desires. Those whose lives are devoted to service to their fellow man are the happiest and the greatest people. Thank you and congratulations to you and your families.”

Valedictorian Recognition Awards were presented to Officers Soa'i Asaeli Jr. and Iapani Tiumalu Jr.

Officer John Seumanutafa was the recipient of the Overall Cadet Award which goes to the cadet who

mostly exemplifies a police officer during training.

The names of the 32 new police officers are:

Latarah Ah See, Soa'i Asaeli Jr., Falefaamaoi Availepule, Vaivasa Curry, Malaetasi Tony Falefia, Fa'aso'o Va'atofu Fiatoa, Alisha Nellie Godinet, Shelley Ili, Epalahame Kava, Asalemo Kuka Jr., Samantha R. Lam Yuen, Faitamai Leomiti, Joseph Lumana'i, Claudya Mamea, Kimberly Mau, Malieo Maui Jr., Misionare Moananu, Petina Pulemagafa, Frances Maria Godinet Roebeck, Lawrence Sagapolutele, Byron Saifoloi, John Seumanutafa, Mafina Sevaaetasi, Talaimotu Levi Tafao-vale Jr., Alexander Tagoa'i, Faith Talosaga, Lee Taouma, Siona Tiapula, Iapani Tiumalu Jr. III, Patrick Tuvale Jr., Joseph Uti and Debra Utu.



# Executive Order adopts the AS Territory multi-hazard mitigation plan

Through an Executive Order signed by Governor Togiola Tulafono on August 4, the American Samoa Revision and Update of the Territory Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan, dated July 11, 2011, is adopted.

According to the Order, American Samoa has suffered substantial loss of life and property from natural disasters. The flash flood of 2003, Hurricane Heta in 2004, Hurricane Olaf in 2005, the tsunami in 2009, constant heavy rain during hurricane season, and severe landslides have caused considerable human suffering and damage to homes, businesses, government buildings, and infrastructure. "Population growth and development continue to increase the vulnerability of American Samoa to natural disasters and unless steps are taken to reduce the risk, disaster losses will continue to increase in the future," it says.

The Governor says the territory has taken steps to mitigate the risk of disaster losses. Strides in building codes and standards, land use procedures and protective outreach mitigation awareness programs have been considerable factors in alleviating

the impact of disasters. New constructions face stringent regulations, in Special Hazard Flood Areas (SHFA) prone to flooding tsunamis, high surf, landslides, and other hazards.

Congress adopted the Disaster Mitigation Act (DMA) of 2000, commonly known as the 2000 Stafford Act, amended on October 10, 2000. On October 30, 2000 the President signed the bill into law.

The purpose of the DMA is to amend the Stafford Act, which establishes a national program for Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM). The PDM provides funds for mitigation planning and mitigation projects to communities. The law requires local and tribal governments to develop and submit mitigation plans to FEMA for approval in order to qualify for future funding, and it also stipulates Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funds for planning purposes, and increases HMPG, from 7.5% to 20% for states meeting enhanced planning criteria.

The Plan outlines the requirement for the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) for flood planning and small projects.

In 2002, the American Samoa Hazard Mitigation Council was established to assist the Territorial Emergency Management Coordinating Office (TEMCO) in the development of the American Samoa Hazard Mitigation Plan. TEMCO was assisted by the Pacific Disaster Center/East-West Center and the UH Social Research Institute to facilitate development of the draft plan. The Mitigation Council and its subcommittees met several times to review building codes and standards, land use regulations, and infrastructure standards and flooding. They also met to formulate and identify mitigation projects and prioritize the projects accordingly. The product of this combined effort is contained in the AS Hazard Mitigation Plan.

In 2007 the American Samoa Hazard Mitigation Plan matured to the state 3-year updated plan requirement. The updated plan was mandated by the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000. The American Samoa Hazard Mitigation Plan was required to be updated in 2011. This is the updated plan mandated by the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000.

## Governor submits his nominations for new DBAS Board to the Senate

The Senate has received the names of Governor Togiola Tulafono's nominations to the Board of the Development Bank of American Samoa.

The Governor has re-appointed board members Fiapa'ipa'i Fruean, Tauilagi Asuega, Taulapapa Willie Sword, Board Chairman Malemo Tausaga (ASG Budget Office Director), and Samana Semo Ve'ave'a (Director of the Dept. of Parks and

Recreation).

New appointees include Rep. Faimealelei Anthony Allen, Sen. Lemanu Peleti Palepoi Muga, Lopa Seti, and Muasau Muasau.

Local law states that the affairs of DBAS must be managed and its corporate powers exercised by a board, which consists of ten members, nine of whom are to be appointed by the governor and confirmed by the Senate only. The DBAS president is a non

voting ex officio member of the board who may not serve as chairman.

Board members are to serve two-year terms.

In his Aug. 23 letter to Senate President Gaoteote Palaie Tofau, Governor Togiola mentioned that a number of the appointees "have served our country with distinction and are veterans of the US Armed Services... They have continued to serve our

*(Continued on page 7)*

# Nominations for new DBAS Board... *(continued from page 6)*

people and our community in various capacities.”

He added by saying that others among them are successful business owners and representatives of the private sector “whose experience and knowledge of local economic conditions and trends will be an asset to the board.”

Gov. Togiola urged the Senate to give the nominees “favorable consideration.”

A confirmation hearing for the board members is yet to be scheduled.

## NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

### **American Samoa Power Authority (ASPA) Public Notice:**

This notice is distributed in accordance with US Public Laws 93-523 & 92-500, Sec. 216, which are known respectively as the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) and the 1972 Clean Water Act (CWA). ASPA has recently prioritized its water & wastewater capital improvement project (CIP) Priority Project List (PPL) to comply with rules and regulations of the American Samoa Environmental Protection Agency and the United States Environmental Protection Agency. A copy of the PPL is available to the public for review at the following locations:

ASPA Customer Service Counter – Tafuna

ASPA Customer Service Counter – Fagatogo

Or on the internet at [www.aspower.com](http://www.aspower.com)

Public comment on the Water & Wastewater CIP PPL may be made in writing or email to [wwppl@aspower.com](mailto:wwppl@aspower.com) for a thirty (30) day period following the date of this public notice.

**ASPA Management**

## FA'ASALALAUGA FA'ALAUATELE

E tusa ai ma le Tulafono o le Unaiete Setete 93-523 & 92-500, Sec. 216 – po’o le tulafono ua lauiloa ole Tulafono ia Sefe Vai Taumafa (Safe Drinking Water Act) ma le 1972 Tulafono mo Vai Mama (1972 Clean Water Act), e fa’alauiloa atu i le mamalu lautele – ua toe fa’afouina le fa’atulagaina o le lisi o galuega fa’aleleia mo le Vaega ole Vai ma le Vaega ole Vai Lafoa’i (Water and Wastewater Capital Improvement Project (CIP) - Project Priority List (PPL)), ina ia alugatasi ma ta’iala ma tulafono a le Ofisa o le Puipua o Vaifanua a Amerika Samoa ma le Unaiete Setete o Amerika.

E mafai e le atunu’u ona maua le kopi ole lisi o galuega fa’aleleia mai le Ofisa Pisinisi a le ASPA i Tafuna po’o Fagatogo. E mafai fo’i ona maua le lisi i luga ole initeneti a le tuatusi a le ASPA i le [www.aspower.com](http://www.aspower.com). E mafai e tagata ona fa’aulu mai tusitusiga ma ni manatu fa’alia po’o tusitusiga e fa’ataui i lenei lisi i le Ofisa a le ASPA i Tafuna po’o Fagatogo – fa’apea fo’i le tuatusi i-meli ole [wwppl@aspower.com](mailto:wwppl@aspower.com). O taimi fa’atulagaina mo ni manatu fa’alia po’o tusitusiga fo’i e fa’ataui i lenei lisi – e fa’amuta i le 30 aso mai le ulua’i fa’asalalauga.

**Puleaga a le ASPA**

Copy of the official invitation from Prime Minister John Key to Governor Togiola Tulafono to the attend the 42<sup>nd</sup> Pacific Islands Forum meeting in Auckland, New Zealand



**Prime Minister**

31 AUG 2011

Honourable Togiola Tulafono  
Governor of American Samoa  
Office of the Governor  
Pagopago  
AMERICAN SAMOA

Dear Governor,

The Government of New Zealand has the honour this year of hosting regional Leaders for the 42<sup>nd</sup> Pacific Islands Forum meeting in Auckland, New Zealand.

As this year's Forum host, and on behalf of the Government of New Zealand, I have great pleasure in inviting you as a Special Guest of my Government to attend the formal session of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Pacific Islands Forum Leaders' Meeting on Wednesday 7 September. You will be invited to make a short (three minute) address.

As you may be aware, the Forum Officials Committee met on 18-19 August 2011 and considered matters relating to a request for Forum Observer status for American Samoa, which was conveyed by the United States Secretary of State, the Honourable Hillary Rodham Clinton, to the Secretary General of the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, Tuiloma Neroni Slade, on your behalf. The Committee agreed to recommend to Forum Leaders that they invite American Samoa to become a Forum Observer. This and other recommendations will be considered by Leaders when they meet at their Retreat (closed meeting) on Thursday 8 September.

The Government and people of New Zealand look forward to receiving you and your delegation for this important gathering of regional Leaders, and I look forward to welcoming you to New Zealand.

Copies of this letter have been provided to Secretary of State Clinton and Secretary General Slade for information.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'John Key', written over a large, stylized circular flourish.

Rt Hon John Key  
**PRIME MINISTER**

# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS DIVISION

## *PAYS TRIBUTE TO* **NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH**

In alignment to Governor Togiola Tulafono's National Preparedness Month, September 2011 Proclamation, the Department of Health fully supports his remarks in "Strengthening a more prepared society." As a major Preparedness partner, we commemorate this month by increasing workforce readiness, promoting community resilience, meeting federal emergency capabilities, and assuring efficient response to all-hazards disasters. The Department of Health will be hosting the following activities in support of National Preparedness Month.

### **September 22 - Thursday, Utulei Beach**

4:30pm - Aerobics

6:00pm - Poster and Essay Competition Display (Winners will be announced and prizes awarded)

### **September 23 - Friday, Utulei Beach**

5:00am - Walk-a-thon (from Aveina Matu'u to Utulei Beach)

9:00am - Public Health Mini Fair at Utulei Beach

- Live DJ
- Live Radio
- Public Health Awareness Booths (Blood pressure checks, diabetes checks, etc.)

## **ESSAY AND POSTER COMPETITION**

### **POSTER CONTEST:**

Category 1: 6-9 years old

Category 2: 10-12 years old

### **ESSAY WRITING CONTEST:**

Category 3: 13-15 years old

Category 4: 16-17 years old

Deadline for all submissions is September 20, 2011. Drop off locations are the Department of Health's main office in Fagaalu, or the Tafuna Family Health Center between 7:30am and 4pm.

Contact 699-8680 for all questions and concerns.

(A full description of poster and essay requirements, along with the entry forms, are printed in the Samoa News).